WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A foot activated device for motorcycle clutches, the device having a foot pedal and a clutch activating link, the device having a shaft connecting the foot pedal to the clutch activating link, the device also having an escapement cooperating with the shaft to selectively hold the device in a clutch disengaging position.

2. The device of claim 1 wherein the escapement is a pawl and ratchet.

3. The device of claim 2 wherein the pawl and ratchet holds the device locked in a clutch disengaging position in response to foot pressure on the foot pedal.

4. The device of claim 3 wherein the pawl and ratchet release the shaft to return the device to an unlocked position in response to foot pressure on the foot pedal.

5. The device of claim 3 wherein the device has a cam that moves the pawl and ratchet out of cooperation with the shaft to selectively release the device from a locked clutch disengaging position.

6. The device of claim 5 wherein the cam moves the pawl and ratchet from a locked clutch disengaging position in response to foot pressure on the foot pedal.

7. The device of claim 6 wherein the device may be returned to a clutch engaging position by release of foot pressure on the foot pedal.

8. The device of claim 5 wherein the pawl is mounted on a piston and wherein the piston is displaced by the cam to move the pawl out of cooperation with the shaft in response to foot pressure on the foot pedal.

9. The device of claim 8 wherein the device has a spring cooperating with the piston, the spring operating to return the piston to a position to reengage the ratchet on an additional cycle of use.

10. The device of claim 1 wherein the device may be retrofit to motorcycles provided with hand clutch mechanisms.

11. A foot operated clutch activating device for motorcycle clutches which may be retrofit to hand clutched motorcycles comprising a foot operated lever, the foot operated lever having a foot pedal, the device having a clutch activating link, the clutch activating link being connected to the foot operated lever by an intermediate lever, the foot operated lever and the intermediate lever being connected to a transverse shaft at a first end of the transverse shaft, the device having a shaft housing and having a second end of the transverse shaft received in the shaft housing, the shaft housing also having an escapement therein, the escapement cooperating with the transverse shaft whereby the device may be latched in a clutch disengaging position on operation of the foot operated lever.

12. The device of claim 11 wherein the escapement is a pawl and ratchet.

13. The device of claim 12 wherein the pawl and ratchet holds the transverse shaft locked in a clutch disengaging position in response to operation of the foot operated lever by positive pressure on the foot pedal.

14. The device of claim 13 wherein the pawl and ratchet release the transverse shaft to return the device to an unlatched position in response to further positive pressure on the foot pedal.

15. The device of claim 13 wherein the shaft housing has a cam therein, the cam moving the pawl and ratchet out of cooperation with the transverse shaft on further positive pressure on the foot pedal to return the device to an unlatched position.

16. The device of claim 15 wherein the device may be returned to a clutch engaging position by release of positive pressure on the foot pedal.

17. The device of claim 15 wherein the shaft housing has a transverse plunger mounted therein, the transverse plunger having the pawl mounted on a first end of the transverse plunger, the transverse plunger having a second end, the cam cooperating with the second end of the transverse plunger to move the plunger and move the pawl to unlatch the device.

18. The device of claim 17 wherein the transverse plunger has a return spring.

19. The device of claim 11 wherein the device has a mounting plate, the transverse shaft being mounted through the mounting plate.

20. A foot operated clutch activating device for motorcycle clutches for retrofitting hand clutched motorcycles comprising foot operated means for engaging and disengaging a motorcycle clutch, the device having means for mounting the device to a motorcycle, the foot operated means including pedal means responsive to positive foot pressure for disengaging a motorcycle clutch, the foot operated means further including means for locking the device in a clutch disengaging position, the foot operated means also including means responsive to positive foot pressure on the pedal means for unlocking the device and returning the device to a clutch engaging position, whereby the clutch of a motorcycle may be selectively engaged and disengaged and may be held in a disengaged position without manual input from a motorcycle rider.